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Implications of the primordial power asymmetry for inflation

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It is both remarkable, and disappointing, that only two parameters describing the primordial perturbations can explain the statistical properties of millions of CMB temperature perturbations. However, the persistence of several large-scale cosmological anomalies in WMAP and Planck satellite data may provide a clue to new physics. I will discuss how inflationary models can explain the observed dipolar power asymmetry, and the extreme difficulties of building a complete working model.

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